

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/707,133

Examiner

John C. Hong

Applicant(s)

LENHOF ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed 7/11/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-17.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 21 November 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art fails to teach: Regarding Claim 1, a method for assembling a shaft to a golf club head without epoxy, the golf club head having a hosel with a tapered bore, the shaft having a tip end and a butt end, the method comprising: positioning the butt end of the shaft into the holding device of the assembly apparatus; inserting a portion of the tip end of the shaft with the sleeve into the tapered bore of the hosel of the golf club head, a portion of the sleeve extending from the hosel; enclosing the jaw mechanism of the press device around a portion of the shaft between the sleeve and the ferrule; and moving the press device to engage a top end of the sleeve and to force the sleeve further into the tapered bore of the hosel, whereby the shaft is at least partially attached to the golf club head without epoxy; Regarding Claim 10, A method for assembling a shaft to a golf club head without epoxy, the method comprising: placing a ferrule and a sleeve on the shaft proximate the tip end; positioning the butt end of the shaft into a holding device of the assembly apparatus, the holding device capable of oscillation; placing a portion of the shaft including the ferrule into a cavity of a press device; placing a portion of the tip end of the shaft and a portion of the sleeve through the crown opening and into the tapered bore of the interior hosel of the golf club head, a portion of the sleeve positioned outside of the crown opening; aligning a graphic of the shaft with a face of the golf club head; enclosing a jaw mechanism of the press device around a portion of the shaft between the sleeve and the ferrule; moving the press device to engage a top end of the sleeve and press the sleeve into the tapered bore of the interior hosel of the golf club head to partially attach the shaft to the golf club head; moving the press device away from the golf club

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head and disengaging the jaw mechanism; removing the golf club head with the partially attached shaft from the assembly apparatus; and securing the ferrule to the interior hosel to completely attach the shaft to the golf club head without epoxy; Regarding Claim 13, An apparatus for assembling a shaft to a golf club head, the golf club head having hosel with a tapered bore, the shaft having a tip end and a butt end and including a ferrule and a sleeve disposed on the shaft proximate the tip end, the apparatus comprising: a first section of a frame; a second section of the frame coupled to the first section; a club head alignment device for receiving the golf club head the alignment device being disposed on the first section; a holding device for receiving the butt end of the shaft the holding device being disposed on the second section and being movable with respect to the club head alignment device; and a press device disposed on the first section of the frame and including a jaw mechanism for enclosing a portion of the shaft between the sleeve and a retention nut, the press device being movable with respect to the club head alignment device to force the sleeve further into the tapered bore of the hosel; and Regarding Claim 17, an apparatus for assembling a shaft to a golf club head without epoxy, the golf club head having an interior hosel with a tapered bore therethrough, a crown opening and a sole opening, the shaft having a tip end and a butt end, and a sleeve and a ferrule disposed on the shaft, the apparatus comprising: the alignment base having a projection for placement in the sole opening of the interior hosel; a holding device for receiving the butt end of the shaft, a lower section ; lower section of the holding device disposed on the upper section of the frame, the holding device capable of vertical oscillation, a press device disposed on the lower section of the

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frame, the press device capable of vertical oscillation, the press device having a cavity for receiving a portion the shaft with the ferrule, and a jaw mechanism connected to the press device, the jaw mechanism capable of enclosing the shaft above the sleeve and forcing the sleeve into the tapered bore of the interior hosel of the golf club head during oscillation of the press device in combination with the other elements of the claimed invention. .

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John C. Hong whose telephone number is 571-272-4529. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F(07:00-16:30)First Friday Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Bryant can be reached on 571-272-4526. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JCH', with a horizontal line crossing through the middle of the letters.

John C. Hong
Primary Examiner
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jh
July 25, 2005